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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Sweden

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. The review of Sweden was held at the 11th meeting, on 26 January 2015. The delegation of Sweden was headed by Annika Söder, State Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs. At its 17th meeting, held on 29 January 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Sweden.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Sweden: Argentina, Latvia and the Republic of Korea.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Sweden:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/SWE/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/SWE/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/SWE/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Azerbaijan, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Israel, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Sweden through the troika. Those questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Sweden said that promoting and respecting human rights for all was a core value and a central priority of the Government. Sweden appreciated that civil society, including organizations representing indigenous peoples and national minorities, had contributed to the preparations for the current UPR session.

6. In a statement of government policy, made in October 2014, the Prime Minister had emphasized that racism and prejudices in society restricted people's lives. Furthermore, he had emphasized that there must be no place in Sweden for anti-Semitism, antiziganism, Islamophobia or Afrophobia. The delegation explained that the fight against racism and xenophobia involved awareness-raising, government contributions to non-governmental organizations, and continuing dialogue with groups subjected to racism and xenophobia. The Swedish police was currently carrying out an assignment to bolster its efforts to combat hate crime.

7. The delegation stated that it was essential to ensure the free exchange of opinions. Although freedom of expression and freedom of the press were enshrined in the Constitution of Sweden, constitutional laws also clearly regulated the content of publications in such a case as the criminal offence of agitation against a national or ethnic group.

8. The delegation stated that combating intolerance, hatred and violent extremism was a global problem that needed to be dealt with collectively. The Government had recently appointed a national coordinator against violent extremism.

9. The delegation stated that Sweden had a feminist government and that gender equality was to permeate all government policies. The main tool in reaching that goal was gender mainstreaming, as well as enhanced gender budgeting and work to combat violence against women.

10. In 2014, Sweden had ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and introduced new legislation that strengthened the protection against forced marriage and child marriage.

11. While the total pay gap between women and men had decreased by 3 percentage points between 1994 and 2013, there was still a pay gap in Sweden of around 13 per cent. The Government had appointed the Delegation for Gender Equality in Working Life to investigate the different conditions for women and men and to propose actions to promote gender equality and reduce the pay gap.

12. The delegation confirmed that the fight against all forms of discrimination, including multiple discrimination, remained a key objective of the Government.

13. The Discrimination Act of 2009 had been amended on 1 January 2015 to include inadequate accessibility for people with disabilities as a new form of discrimination.

14. A comprehensive strategy had been adopted in 2013 with the purpose of improving and strengthening the situation for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons in Sweden. A committee of inquiry was currently looking into the question of whether transgender persons should be protected by the criminal law provisions on hate crimes and hate speech, which already covered the ground of sexual orientation.

15. Strengthening the protection of national minority languages was an element in protecting the rights of Sweden's national minorities.

16. The delegation stated that the work aimed at eliminating discrimination against Roma and antiziganism was a priority for the Government. The national strategy for Roma inclusion, which had been adopted in 2012, placed special emphasis on the principle of non-discrimination and on Roma participation and input for its implementation. A special commission against antiziganism had been appointed.

17. The delegation reported that, in 2013, the media had exposed a police register of over 4,000 people. According to the media, the main purpose for setting up the register had been to map individuals on the basis of their Roma background. The investigation carried out by the Commission on Security and Integrity Protection had concluded that the processing of personal data by the police was against the law in several aspects. The Police Authority had been commissioned to report to the Government in February 2015 on the measures that had been taken to ensure that the legal framework was applied accurately and that the required guidelines and administrative practices were in place to prevent any discrimination. With regard to the affected individuals' entitlement to compensation, about 3,000 applications for compensation had already been approved.

18. The delegation noted that since 2011, the Swedish Constitution had explicitly recognized the Sami as a people. In 2011, Finland, Norway and Sweden had initiated negotiations on a Nordic Sami convention.

19. In 2010, the right of the Sami Parliament to participate in municipal planning and to monitor consideration of Sami needs, including reindeer husbandry interests in land and water use, had been extended. Furthermore, the Minerals Act and Minerals Ordinance had

been amended in 2014 so as to increase Sami involvement in the process of issuing permits for exploration for minerals.

20. With regard to the mental health challenges facing reindeer herders, notably their increased risk of suicide, the Government had acknowledged that there was a need for more efforts in order to reduce such risks; a number of proposals were being looked into.

21. Sweden was constantly seeking ways to strengthen the rights of the child, including the rights of children to express their views on issues concerning them. Since October 2014, preparatory work on the incorporation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish legislation had been prioritized by the Government.

22. The delegation explained that in 2014, approximately 7,000 unaccompanied minors had applied for asylum in Sweden and that the best interests of the child were always to be taken into account. The Swedish Migration Board had worked actively to trace the minors' parents or other guardians.

23. More than 6,000 persons under the age of 18, with residence in Sweden, were stateless. The delegation noted that the recognition of the State of Palestine would give most of those children citizenship. Amendments to the Swedish Citizenship Act, with the aim of reducing statelessness, would enter into force on 1 April 2015.

24. The delegation stated that, in Sweden, pretrial detention and restrictions should only be used when necessary and proportionate. The reasons for the detention were regularly reviewed. It was important that the length of the pretrial detention be kept as short as possible and that only necessary restrictions be used. The Prosecution Authority and the Prison and Probation Service were both taking steps to reduce the isolation of detainees.

25. The Government was also examining ways of improving the overall situation for young offenders, including finding ways to ease any solitary confinement of young detainees.

26. The delegation reported that Sweden combined strong protection of the rights of the individual with efforts to prevent any interference with the right to privacy. The Foreign Intelligence Act and the Signals Intelligence Act contained mechanisms for legal security and control to ensure that the requirement of integrity protection was met.

27. The delegation stated that signals intelligence at the National Defence Radio Establishment was conducted within the detailed framework of Swedish legislation, under strict judicial control and with parliamentary oversight. The Government reported to Parliament annually, through a written communication, on the signals surveillance conducted under the Act. The system was aimed at ensuring that signals intelligence was carried out in accordance with the national legislation protecting privacy as well as with the country's obligations under international human rights law.

28. On the issue of investigations into alleged police misconduct, the delegation referred to the establishment on 1 January 2015, at the national level, of the independent and separate Department of Special Investigations, within the Swedish police.

29. The delegation reported that the Government, in its budget bill for 2015, had announced that it intended to deliver to Parliament a systematic strategy for human rights work in Sweden, one important aspect of which was to set out how independent monitoring of the implementation of human rights in the country could be organized.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

30. During the interactive dialogue, 89 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

31. Montenegro welcomed the drawing up of the national action plan for human rights, the long-term strategy for Roma inclusion, and Sweden's mid-term report. It enquired about activities undertaken to address racially motivated hate speech against visible minorities.

32. Morocco welcomed the adoption of measures to promote gender equality and to combat violence against women, and of policy to improve the situation of persons with disabilities. It highlighted the efforts to combat discrimination, racism and xenophobia, and the initiatives against discrimination and offensive treatment in schools.

33. Namibia noted the anti-discrimination efforts, including the budget allocation, which had enjoyed an increase from 2013, as well as the protection against discrimination associated with age that had applied to sectors of society covered by the Discrimination Act starting from 1 January 2013.

34. Belgium welcomed the progress made on children's rights. It enquired whether the process of incorporating the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish legislation had begun and whether the Government could commit to a deadline to complete that incorporation.

35. Nicaragua welcomed the legislative and institutional advances since the first UPR of Sweden, and highlighted the adoption of the law on combating discrimination and particularly multiple discrimination.

36. Norway welcomed Sweden's announcement about incorporating the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish law. It noted concerns over the slow progress in addressing Sami land rights and the restrictive terms of reference of the Boundary Commission, and made reference to the importance of ratifying International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 169.

37. Pakistan made recommendations.

38. Costa Rica highlighted the adoption of the new Act on Criminal Responsibility for Genocide, Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes, and shared the concern of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination at the reported increase of racially motivated hate speech against minorities.

39. Poland acknowledged the efforts made to implement the recommendations of the first UPR cycle and noted that adoption of the law on crimes against humanity in 2014 was an important step in the fight against torture.

40. Portugal commended Sweden's efforts to combat all kinds of discrimination, especially against minorities, and to promote equality. In that regard, Portugal noted the establishment by Sweden of the office of the Equality Ombudsman.

41. Qatar welcomed the 2010 strategy for strengthening child rights, the new action plan for the protection of children against human trafficking, exploitation and sexual assault, and education programmes that incorporated the rights of the child.

42. Romania commended Sweden for its mid-term report, and noted positively Sweden's approval of the Istanbul Convention, its adoption of the strategy for Roma inclusion for 2012–2032, and the setting-up of the commission against anti-gypsyism.

43. The Russian Federation was concerned at the unlawful use of force by the police and xenophobic rhetoric against national and religious minorities. It also noted the growth in crimes of hatred, racism and xenophobia.

44. Rwanda commended the measures to combat discrimination and to boost knowledge about xenophobia among minors, and the efforts to promote gender equality and salary parity. It noted its appreciation for the conviction of Stanislas Mbanenande for the crime of genocide in Rwanda.

45. Senegal welcomed the steps taken by Sweden to withdraw reservations to international human rights instruments, and the adoption of legislative measures to protect unaccompanied children and to combat trafficking in persons and the sexual exploitation of children.

46. Serbia commended Sweden on instituting the office of the Equality Ombudsman. Serbia encouraged continued efforts to promote the integration of migrants and to strengthen cooperation with civil society, with a view to reinforcing migrants' influence in society.

47. Sierra Leone commended Sweden for its human rights record and support to developing countries through official development assistance. Sierra Leone urged Sweden to further promote religious tolerance and social integration among the country's various ethnic groups and immigrant communities.

48. Slovakia commended Sweden for prioritizing its human rights policy, and acknowledged its gender equality activities and its initiatives to combat anti-gypsyism. It encouraged Sweden to implement the recommendations of the Committee against Torture on legal safeguards for persons deprived of their liberty.

49. Slovenia welcomed Sweden's assistance through development cooperation. It noted the challenges of hate crime, intolerant political discourse and a persistent gender pay gap, as well as some concerns about the right to privacy, in connection with the mass intereception of communications.

50. Spain welcomed the measures adopted on children's rights, in response to recommendations made by Spain in 2010. It also welcomed the efforts that had been made to better protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

51. Sri Lanka appreciated the implementation of the 2014 action plan for the protection of children from trafficking and sexual exploitation, the priority accorded to gender equality, and the efforts that had been made to strengthen protections against discrimination.

52. The State of Palestine welcomed the efforts made to combat discrimination and xenophobia and to address the gender wage gap, as well as the appointment of special hate crimes investigators.

53. The Sudan commended Sweden's ratification of most United Nations core conventions on human rights and the adoption of two national plans of action for human rights.

54. Thailand commended the progress made in incorporating international human rights obligations into national legislation. It welcomed the establishment of the office of the Equality Ombudsman, and noted that hate crime and online racism continued to proliferate.

55. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia noted that the Swedish foreign ministry had held regular and frequent meetings on human rights issues with civil society organizations. It commended the country's contribution to international development.

56. Timor-Leste recognized the commitment of Sweden to making human rights protection a priority. It appreciated the strategy for Roma inclusion for 2012–2032, the special hate crime investigator, and the strengthened measures to combat trafficking.

57. Togo noted that despite progress in the fight against discrimination, difficulties remained regarding racism. Persons with a migrant background and Swedes of African descent were often targeted; new measures were therefore required to better protect persons targeted by discrimination, racism and xenophobia.

58. Tunisia welcomed the pioneering role of Sweden in promoting and protecting human rights and freedom of expression on the internet. Tunisia noted the measures taken to implement UPR recommendations, particularly the adoption of human rights action plans, and welcomed Sweden's asylum policies.

59. Turkey praised Sweden's achievements in human rights, especially in the prevention of violence against women, and its ratification of the Istanbul Convention. It was concerned about racially motivated and/or religiously intolerant hate speech and an increase in associated crimes.

60. Ukraine commended the strength of human rights protections in Sweden and cited domestic implementation via national action plans. It lauded the open consultations with civil society organizations, as well as the cooperation with international mechanisms and institutions.

61. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland recognized Sweden's prioritization of human rights. It acknowledged protections against discrimination, but recognized outstanding challenges impacting on vulnerable groups, including the Roma, and urged enhanced protections for stateless persons.

62. The United States of America lauded Sweden's commitment to human rights and its leadership in promoting internet freedoms. However it noted reports of discrimination against certain ethnic and religious minorities, and was concerned by insufficient training for judges investigating human trafficking.

63. Uzbekistan commended the national action plans, the establishment of the office of the Equality Ombudsman, and the Roma inclusion strategy. However, it noted concerns expressed by treaty bodies about hate speech on racial and religious grounds, coercive treatment of persons with mental disabilities, and industrial activities in traditional Sami territory.

64. Albania welcomed constitutional protections against discrimination, including on the grounds of sexual orientation, and the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. It noted with satisfaction the budget allocations for the sustainable protection of human rights, particularly for organizations working in the disability sector.

65. Algeria appreciated Sweden's participatory approach with civil society in the drafting of the national report. It commended the adoption of two action plans and encouraged the adoption of a third. It encouraged the creation of a new national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles.

66. Angola welcomed the measures taken to raise children's and adolescents' awareness about xenophobia and similar forms of intolerance. It noted Sweden's efforts to comply with its international commitments to protect the rights of vulnerable persons, particularly migrants.

67. Argentina commended Sweden for its new 2014 and 2015 action plan for the protection of children against human trafficking, sexual exploitation and sexual assault, and for the legislative efforts made to combat discrimination.

68. Armenia lauded the ongoing measures for gender equality, alongside provisions for children and persons with disabilities. It commended the protection of the rights of national minorities, as well as the free exercise of the cultural and religious rights of persons of Armenian origin living in Sweden.

69. Australia praised the consistent respect for human rights and civil liberties, specifically the promotion of gender equality and elimination of violence against women. It commended the inquiry commissioned in 2014 to consider a specific provision on criminalizing torture in Swedish law.

70. Austria commended Sweden's commitment to the global advancement of human rights. Austria remained concerned at reports of discrimination against the Sami, particularly in relation to land rights, water and resources. It referred to concern on the part of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination at increased reports of racially motivated hate speech and hate crimes.

71. Azerbaijan noted concerns expressed by some treaty bodies about discrimination, xenophobia and racist attitudes against Muslims, Afro-Swedes, Roma and Jews, attacks against the places of worship of religious minorities, and the increasingly high rate of suicide among persons with disabilities.

72. Replying to comments made and questions raised, Sweden stated that it had extensive legislation in place that could be used to punish various expressions of racism, xenophobia, religious intolerance, homophobia and transphobia. The assignment given to the Swedish police was aimed at improving the rate of resolved hate crime cases; that report would be followed up on.

73. The delegation stated that most penal provisions relevant to combating hate speech and hate crime also applied to crimes committed online.

74. In response to the recent attacks against Swedish mosques, the Swedish police had prioritized investigations to find those responsible and bring them to justice. Dialogue between the police and religious organizations needed to intensify. The Government had invited representatives from the Muslim community to a round-table talk on Islamophobia being held in Europe in early 2015.

75. The Government had invited representatives from the Jewish community to discuss issues of anti-Semitism, and additional funds had been allocated for enhanced security measures to protect the Jewish community in Sweden.

76. Concerning antiziganism, a white paper on abuses and violations against Roma during the twentieth century had been presented in 2014, and a commission against anti-ziganism had been set up.

77. As the largest number of reported hate crimes was in relation to Afrophobia, the Government intended to give the Equality Ombudsman an assignment to carry out awareness-raising measures during 2015 and 2016.

78. Independent studies had concluded that Sweden fulfilled the requirements set out in ILO Convention No. 169 in most respects, and that the main stumbling blocks were rights of ownership and possession over lands, and reindeer grazing rights. The delegation reported that the issue of land rights was also addressed in the draft Nordic Sami Convention, and that the Government hoped that this process could be a catalyst to finding a solution to outstanding issues.

79. Regarding the issue of a national human rights institution, Sweden had assessed that national action plans for human rights were an appropriate method of work. The two committees of enquiry regarding systematic work on human rights in Sweden and their recommendations, as well as the follow-up to the UPR, would constitute the basis for Sweden's deliberations on how to deliver a system in which independent monitoring of the implementation of human rights could take place. The delegation reported that the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions had made an agreement with the Government about strengthening human rights at work at the local level, and the Government had adopted a decision about supporting Sweden's country boards to work with human rights.

80. In Sweden, the age of criminal responsibility was 15 years. A person under the age of 18 could only be placed in detention if there were extraordinary reasons for that

detention. Sweden would report to the Committee against Torture on the legal safeguards for minors in detention, by November 2015.

81. Sweden had established a government committee to look at the possibility of having a special criminal provision on torture, and would present a report in September 2015.

82. Sweden had signed the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in 2007. The question of its ratification was on its agenda, but work on ratification had not yet started.

83. The delegation confirmed that there was no general obligation under international law to recognize diplomatic asylum.

84. Bahrain noted the measures taken to combat trafficking in persons and uphold the rights of victims, and welcomed the initiatives taken to raise awareness among students about the danger of xenophobia. It asked about the plan to improve access to education by migrant families.

85. Bangladesh commended Sweden on exceeding the United Nations target for official development assistance. It noted the concern expressed by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination about racist and extremist organizations and about an increase of racially motivated hate speech against religious minorities, Afro-Swedes and Roma.

86. The Netherlands appreciated the efforts of Sweden to combat terrorism, noting the concern that the use of surveillance technology could violate the right to privacy. It acknowledged efforts to deal with discrimination against the Sami and Roma minorities, stating that this required continued vigilance.

87. Benin commended the efforts and progress in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, and the promotion of the right to development, including the support for the realization of the Millennium Development Goals.

88. Bosnia and Herzegovina commended Sweden on being an exemplary democratic country. It asked about obstacles to ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It shared the concerns of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that immigrant, refugee and minority women continued to suffer multiple forms of discrimination.

89. Botswana commended the amendment to the Penal Code to strengthen protection against harassment and protection against forced and child marriage, and an action plan to protect children against trafficking. However it noted the concerns expressed by treaty bodies about ethnic discrimination and hate crimes.

90. Brazil commended the legislative amendment that recognized the Sami as an indigenous people. It shared the concern expressed by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination about hate crimes, noting that the reorganization of the police should be seized as an opportunity to prevent ethnic profiling and build trust with local communities.

91. Bulgaria commended the adoption of two national human rights action plans. It appreciated measures taken to combat discrimination and xenophobia, such as the appointment of a special investigator and the establishment of the office of the Equality Ombudsman, and efforts to combat anti-Semitism and Islamophobia.

92. Canada noted Sweden's agreement in 2010 to improve dialogue and consultation with the Sami people on government policy affecting them and in the development of legislation. Canada asked for information on progress achieved, including with respect to Sweden's Arctic policy.

93. Chad noted with satisfaction Sweden's presentation of a mid-term report on the implementation of UPR recommendations, and its regular consultation with civil society organizations on questions pertaining to human rights and equal rights for certain population groups.

94. Chile celebrated the efforts to implement human rights policies nationally and internationally. It shared the concern at discriminatory attitudes detailed in the national report and encouraged Sweden to continue adopting further measures in that regard.

95. China cited concern over efforts to enhance anti-discrimination education and protect minority rights, specifically in combatting xenophobia, gender-based discrimination and intolerance on the internet. It also referred to hate crimes, and to measures to combat trafficking, exploitation and sexual attacks against children.

96. Comoros took note of the commitments and actions undertaken for the respect of all human rights. Comoros welcomed the actions taken by Sweden in support of development and highlighted its exemplary openness and hospitality to migrants.

97. Côte d'Ivoire noted the reforms undertaken at the national level, particularly the legislative provisions on gender equality and the access to public services for persons with disabilities, members of minorities, migrants and asylum seekers. It welcomed Sweden's involvement in humanitarian activities.

98. Croatia welcomed the progress achieved in implementing recommendations accepted by Sweden during its first UPR and encouraged the Government to continue working actively to ensure full and equal enjoyment of all human rights for all, without distinction.

99. Cuba recognized progress achieved in different areas and noted remaining challenges, as mentioned in the national report, including discrimination. It expressed concern at discriminatory statements made by far-right politicians, the existence of racist organizations, and increased incitement to hatred, especially on the internet.

100. The Czech Republic appreciated the informative presentation by the Swedish delegation on human rights challenges and achievements.

101. Denmark commended Sweden's commitment to human rights and underlined the importance of monitoring the human rights situation. It welcomed the work undertaken by Sweden to progress in the negotiations on the draft Nordic Sami Convention.

102. Ecuador recognized the efforts to comply with recommendations received in 2010, particularly the measures taken to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities, and highlighted progress in combating discrimination, xenophobia and human trafficking.

103. Egypt welcomed positive developments related to women's rights, the rights of the child and combating human trafficking. Egypt noted that discrimination and societal hostility against Roma, Muslims and migrants; hate crimes, including the torching of mosques; and alleged racial profiling deserved specific attention.

104. Estonia highlighted Sweden's policies on women's rights and on minority and indigenous peoples, its leadership on the internet freedom resolutions and its role as a humanitarian aid donor. It welcomed the strategy for Roma inclusion and the work with the draft Nordic Sami convention.

105. Finland was pleased to note the open consultations with civil society, the Ombudsman's highlighting of multiple discrimination, and the report on discrimination against the Roma in Sweden. Finland emphasized the possible usage of Meänkieli and Finnish minority languages.

106. France welcomed Sweden's commitment to human rights, particularly within the Human Rights Council.

107. Gabon commended the three-year initiative running from 2012 to 2014 in the field of education and training, which included measures to give children and adolescents a better understanding of xenophobia, as well as the efforts to improve the care of unaccompanied minors in municipalities.

108. Germany commended an exemplary record of human rights protections, but observed that xenophobic and Islamophobic parties had gained ground, resulting in anti-Muslim sentiments being voiced in the media and subsequent increases in hate speech and hate crimes.

109. Greece acknowledged the efforts made to tackle discrimination based on religion, but stated that more needed to be done given increased racism-oriented activities in the country. Greece commended the appointment of a national coordinator for combating violence in intimate relations and suggested that the recommendations in her report be implemented.

110. Guatemala welcomed the confirmation in 2011 of the recognition of the Sami as a people and the Nordic cooperation projects aimed at strengthening the rights of Sami to maintain and develop their language, culture, way of life and community life.

111. Honduras congratulated Sweden on its efforts to combat discrimination through the adoption of normative, institutional and policy measures, particularly the consultation with civil society organizations working to promote the equality of children, persons with disabilities, LGBT persons and national minorities.

112. Hungary welcomed the progress in strengthening the rights of the child, but was concerned at the reported increase in hate crimes. Hungary asked about the results of pilot projects for Roma inclusion, and of the main findings and conclusions on establishing a national institution compliant with the Paris Principles.

113. Iceland noted that Sweden was a global standard-bearer for the promotion and protection of human rights. Iceland encouraged accelerated efforts to address persistent problems of xenophobic and Islamophobic discourse, and applauded the intended incorporation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish law.

114. India commended the recent initiative to sensitize young people against xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. India encouraged Sweden to address the discrepancies in access to employment, housing, health care and education between native Swedes and foreign-born persons.

115. Indonesia welcomed the efforts to combat violence against women and to protect children's rights and ensure respect for the rights of migrants. Indonesia also appreciated the co-hosting in January 2015 of a high-level event entitled Staying Together: Dialogue in the Face of Violent Extremism.

116. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed serious concerns over racist and xenophobic crimes against Roma and Sinti, and crimes against minorities, including the targeting of Muslims with harassment, verbal threats, sabotage and vandalism.

117. Ireland commended Sweden's strong commitment to human rights, the rule of law and freedom of the media. It noted that functions of the Ombudsman for Children did not include the power to accept individual complaints.

118. Israel congratulated Sweden on its leading work on promoting the human rights of the sexual orientation and gender identity community. It echoed concerns by the Office of the Ombudsman for Children, particularly on the human rights of children deprived of their liberty in remand prisons and police cells.

119. Italy noted concerns on the lack of a broader mandate for the Equality Ombudsman. It welcomed the measures taken to safeguard children from sexual exploitation, and noted the concerns about the low level of public awareness of child sex tourism.

120. Kuwait noted the challenges in fighting discrimination and welcomed the establishment of the office of the Equality Ombudsman to fight against all forms of discrimination against vulnerable groups, particularly foreigners and refugees.

121. Lebanon welcomed the efforts of Sweden to adopt international standards and develop national legislation. It commended the numerous initiatives to combat discrimination and xenophobia as a reflection of the commitment to strengthening human rights and democratic values.

122. Libya noted that despite considerable progress made in various areas, some challenges in the area of human rights still remained, particularly in fighting discrimination.

123. Lithuania encouraged Sweden to exchange its experience with other countries that were seeking to make progress in the area of human rights protection. It recognized the steps taken to ensure the protection of children by including a new crime in the Penal Code in 2009.

124. Malaysia acknowledged progress made, including in promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. Malaysia noted the Government's dialogue with religious associations to combat xenophobia and religious intolerance. In addition, it noted that Sweden still faced the challenges of racism, intolerance, Islamophobia and xenophobic attitudes towards non-citizens and other minorities.

125. Trinidad and Tobago welcomed the adoption of the plan against human trafficking. Trinidad and Tobago believed that further work was needed to combat discrimination against minorities and to enhance the rights of disabled persons.

126. Uruguay welcomed the elaboration of a third human rights plan. The establishment of a national human rights institution would support human rights achievements. Uruguay stated that the humanitarian situation and rights of any person sought by the Government should be considered and protected.

127. The Republic of Moldova asked about the findings of the interim report of the committee of inquiry into compulsory residential care for children and adolescents and recommended the introduction of a new form of care home for unaccompanied children. It noted the successful implementation of the second human rights action plan.

128. South Africa commended the successful implementation of some UPR recommendations and encouraged Sweden to continue to make every effort for the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights, including the right to development.

129. The Philippines recognized the important contribution by Sweden on migration and development and lauded Sweden for amending its anti-discrimination laws to make it easier for victims to seek redress. The Philippines was interested in knowing about initiatives to safeguard the rights of the Sami and Roma.

130. Mexico welcomed the recognition of the Sami as an indigenous population, and the efforts to promote awareness about xenophobia and other forms of intolerance among children and adolescents. It encouraged Sweden to continue combating racist, xenophobic, Islamophobic and anti-Semitic propaganda.

131. Ghana commended the commitment by Sweden to the UPR process. Ghana referred to the legacy of Raoul Wallenberg regarding the protection of minorities, while noting human rights concerns that had been expressed by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee against Torture.

132. The Swedish delegation stated that, while racist organizations could exist in Sweden, racist actions were criminalized.

133. The implementation of the strategy for Roma inclusion was characterized by Roma influence and participation.

134. Sweden had allocated a considerable amount of money, including for shelters, in order to implement all measures to end men's violence against women, violence and oppression in the name of honour, violence in same-sex relationships, female genital mutilation, child marriages and forced marriages.

135. The delegation stated that, in 2012, the Government had appointed a national coordinator against violence in close relationships. Sweden expected the final report in May 2015 of the committee of enquiry charged with developing a national strategy to achieve the aim of ending men's violence against women.

136. If business did not live up to the commitment of applying quotas for women in business, the Government might consider legislating on that matter.

137. The delegation referred to Sweden's proactive role in abolishing corporal punishment against children both in Sweden and internationally. Sweden planned to create a national knowledge centre on violence against children to coordinate and compile knowledge and to support actors in their work against corporal punishment.

138. The issue of child poverty had been highly prioritized by the Government, and some county administrative boards had supported local authorities in producing action plans, suited to local conditions, to deal with child poverty.

139. Sweden was the country in Europe receiving the highest number of asylum-seeking unaccompanied children. In 2014, 87 per cent of unaccompanied minors had been granted residence permits. Sweden, per capita, had received more refugees than any other European Union country.

140. The principle of non-refoulement had long been a part of Swedish asylum law. Refusal of entry or expulsion may never be enforced if the person would be in danger of suffering the death penalty or torture.

141. The delegation confirmed that it was not possible to accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

142. Regarding questions about human trafficking, the delegation stated that Sweden had presented, in 2014, an action plan for the protection of children against human trafficking, exploitation and sexual assaults.

143. The delegation reported that the Swedish Foreign Intelligence Inspectorate was tasked with verifying that the defence intelligence authorities followed the Foreign Intelligence Act. The Foreign Intelligence Court was a special court hearing applications for permits to conduct signals intelligence. All signal intelligence that a national defence

radio establishment might conduct required a permit from the Foreign Intelligence Court, whose aim it was to limit intrusions in individual privacy.

144. In closing, the Swedish delegation thanked all the delegations that had asked questions and made recommendations. The UPR was an important opportunity to reflect on the human rights situation in Sweden. Sweden was proud of the progress made and also saw the UPR process as an opportunity to improve. Sweden would carefully consider the recommendations made. It would continue to engage with civil society and reflect on the UPR process, and consider how recommendations could best be addressed and implemented. Sweden would undertake interministerial consultations to follow up on the dialogue and the recommendations.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

145. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Sweden and enjoy the support of Sweden:**

145.1. **Consider ratification of the third protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, thereby establishing a procedure for the presentation of communications (Belgium);**

145.2. **Consider ratification of the ILO convention on indigenous peoples (Uzbekistan); consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 169 (Guatemala); consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 169 (Nicaragua);**

145.3. **Consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 169 (Brazil);**

145.4. **Consider ratifying other international human rights conventions, including ILO Convention No. 189 (Philippines); consider ratification of ILO convention on decent work for domestic workers (Uzbekistan);**

145.5. **Initiate the process to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into national legislation and continue the formulation of a third plan of action for human rights (Albania);**

145.6. **Adopt measures to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into national legislation (Angola);**

145.7. **Take measures to ensure the full incorporation of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Swedish legislation (France);**

145.8. **Take measures to incorporate the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish law (Qatar);**

145.9. **Work effectively on incorporating the the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish laws (Iceland);**

145.10. **Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Namibia);**

145.11. **Consider establishing a national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine);**

145.12. **Consider creating a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (France);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

145.13. Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, as previously recommended (Indonesia);

145.14. Consider establishing a national human rights institution, in conformity with the Paris Principles, with a broad mandate, as soon as possible (Ireland);

145.15. Consider heeding the call of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (South Africa);

145.16. Continue consultations initiated for the creation of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Togo);

145.17. Consider developing Human Rights Indicators as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies (Portugal);

145.18. Consider developing a third action plan on human rights and continue sharing its experience with regard to systematic human rights implementation (Republic of Moldova);

145.19. Continue its efforts to raise public awareness and to include human rights education in the school curricula (Sudan);

145.20. Give due attention to the issue of human rights education in the current work on the third action plan on human rights by, inter alia, compiling a report on the situation regarding human rights education in Sweden (Finland);

145.21. Continue to consult, and expand its dialogue with, civil society organizations working in the area of human rights protection, particularly in combating racial discrimination (Timor-Leste);

145.22. Consider establishing an interministerial committee responsible for the implementation of its international human rights obligations (Portugal);

145.23. Continue to play an active role in international forums to fight racism and paedophilia (Lebanon);

145.24. Consider the introduction of a complaint mechanism for children at the domestic level, as well as signature and ratification of the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Ireland);

145.25. Look into the possibility of prioritizing the rights of the child directly, as a stand-alone issue, not just as a horizontal consideration in its human rights policies (Hungary);

145.26. Take appropriate measures to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including through education and awareness-raising campaigns (Italy);

145.27. Enhance efforts — including within the "Strategy to Strengthen the Rights of the Child in Sweden" — to prevent and eliminate discrimination against children belonging to ethnic minorities, child members of immigrant families and child refugees and asylum seekers (Croatia);

145.28. Explore ways and means of strengthening the ongoing efforts to combat all forms of discrimination to improve the scope of protection against discrimination at all levels in society (Sri Lanka);

145.29. **Fight against discrimination in society more effectively (Angola);**

145.30. **Strengthen measures to combat all forms of discrimination (Gabon);**

145.31. **Consolidate laws and regulations to fight all forms of discrimination, racism and xenophobia (Lebanon);**

145.32. **Be proactive in its measures to prevent discrimination against immigrant, refugee and minority women who continue to suffer from multiple forms of discrimination, and to combat violence against them (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

145.33. **Consider the establishment of quotas to ensure a gender-balanced representation in business administrative councils (France);**

145.34. **Take concrete action to reduce the gender gap in decision-making positions and ensure equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value (Sri Lanka);**

145.35. **Continue to take measures to narrow the gender wage gap and enhance the equal opportunities of work between men and women (State of Palestine);**

145.36. **Continue taking efficient measures with a view to eliminating differences in salaries and other terms of employment between men and women who perform work that is regarded as equal or equivalent (Croatia);**

145.37. **Take concrete actions to end the increasing gender gap in the area of employment and pay, thus ensuring equal remuneration for men and women (South Africa);**

145.38. **Continue efforts to further reduce the pay gap between women and men (Albania);**

145.39. **Take the necessary measures to reduce the gender wage gap (Algeria);**

145.40. **Ensure equal treatment of all workers carrying out the same tasks (Senegal);**

145.41. **Continue consolidating the Equality Ombudsman's mandate in combating discrimination (Romania);**

145.42. **Adopt special measures to promote equal opportunities, address structural discrimination and enhance strategies against inequality and discrimination faced by migrants, foreign-born citizens, indigenous peoples as well as minority groups, including Afro-Swedes and Muslims (South Africa);**

145.43. **Take further measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of ethnicity (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

145.44. **Pursue strategies and policies to prevent discrimination, in all spheres of public life, against its indigenous people and other minority groups such as Afro-Swedes and Muslims (Trinidad and Tobago);**

145.45. **Further enhance efforts to combat discrimination, including racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances (Namibia);**

145.46. **Continue strengthening efforts to combat racism, intolerance and hate crimes (Iceland);**

145.47. Continue strengthening efforts to combat racism, xenophobia and religious intolerance in law and practice (Indonesia);

145.48. Continue efforts to combat discrimination and promote greater social integration of immigrants, and indigenous and minority groups (Costa Rica);

145.49. Promote equal opportunities and enhance strategies against discrimination faced by immigrants and minority groups, both ethnic and religious (Poland);

145.50. Continue taking the necessary measures to strengthen the efforts aiming to combat discrimination and hatred of foreigners (State of Palestine);

145.51. Take immediate steps to adopt and implement policies and measures to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Islamophobia and related intolerances (Pakistan);

145.52. Redouble its efforts to eliminate any remaining forms of discrimination and xenophobia (Sudan);

145.53. Continue ensuring the implementation of measures in order to fully eliminate discrimination, racism and xenophobia against minorities, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants (Macedonia);

145.54. Take more effective measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against minority groups in the country, in particular prejudice against Muslims (Malaysia);

145.55. Apply stronger measures to combat discrimination, xenophobia and incitement to hatred (Cuba);

145.56. Take legislative and other measures to address discrimination, racial hatred and incitement, and investigate reported cases (Botswana);

145.57. Further progress on measures to prevent and punish all forms of racial discrimination (Chile);

145.58. Strengthen efforts to prevent, investigate effectively, prosecute and punish all hate crimes, as well as acts of racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (Brazil);

145.59. Intensify efforts to prosecute cases of hate crimes, either on the basis of race or religious belief (Sierra Leone);

145.60. Effectively investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes and take effective measures to combat hate speech in the media and on the internet, including by prosecuting the perpetrators regardless of their official status (Turkey);

145.61. Investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes against visible minorities, including Muslims, Afro-Swedes, Roma and Jews (Azerbaijan);

145.62. Take further measures to boost children's, adolescents' and young people's knowledge of the issue of xenophobia and similar forms of intolerance (Qatar);

145.63. Promote tolerance and further protect minorities and vulnerable groups (Senegal);

145.64. Take additional measures to promote tolerance and respect for diversity (Botswana);

145.65. **Continue efforts to promote respect of cultural, religious and linguistic diversity (Morocco);**

145.66. **Take the necessary measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity (Montenegro);**

145.67. **Take all appropriate measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity (Azerbaijan);**

145.68. **Enhance measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity (Slovenia);**

145.69. **Strengthen the necessary measures to enhance tolerance and dialogue among civilizations (Kuwait);**

145.70. **Strengthen measures to promote tolerance and dialogue between civilizations and take categorical measures to fight hate speech and to penalize the perpetrators of such speech (Libya);**

145.71. **Do everything in its power to continue to live up to its well-deserved reputation, particularly by working actively to combat xenophobic, racist, anti-Semitic and Islamophobic acts which are tending to increase in the country (Comoros);**

145.72. **Continue its meritorious efforts to prosecute violent hate crimes, including racist and xenophobic crimes (Ghana);**

145.73. **Step up measures to combat discriminatory acts and hate speech against certain minority groups, emphasizing prevention and follow-up (Côte d'Ivoire);**

145.74. **Take additional steps, beyond the adoption of legislation, to prevent racially motivated hate speech, hate crimes and discrimination (Austria);**

145.75. **Enhance efforts to curb hate crimes against certain religious communities, ethnic groups and other minorities, including indigenous people (India);**

145.76. **Combat hate speech, in particular in the media and on the internet, and punish perpetrators (Bahrain);**

145.77. **Take effective measures to combat hate speech in the media and on the internet, including by prosecuting the perpetrators, where appropriate, regardless of their official status (Azerbaijan);**

145.78. **Take additional crucial measures to fight hate speech and prosecute and punish perpetrators of hate crimes (Kuwait);**

145.79. **Take measures to improve the follow-up to complaints of hate crimes (France);**

145.80. **Take effective measures to combat hate speech on racial and religious grounds in the media and on the internet, and to bring to justice the perpetrators of hate speech (Uzbekistan);**

145.81. **Take necessary legislative, political and awareness-raising measures to fight effectively against hate speech and crimes committed on the grounds of religious hatred, in particular Islamophobia (Algeria);**

145.82. **Take all necessary measures to ensure greater effectiveness of legislation on hate crimes (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

145.83 Take steps for eliminating religious and racial discrimination (Pakistan);

145.84 Step up efforts to effectively deal with discrimination, violence and hate speech against migrants (China);

145.85 Adopt vigorous measures to combat all forms of discrimination against persons with an immigrant background (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

145.86 More actively confront the crimes against national minorities (Cuba);

145.87 Take measures to improve enforcement of existing laws prohibiting discrimination, including against the Roma (Canada);

145.88 Continue to fight against racism and acts of violence and discrimination against persons of African descent (Algeria);

145.89 Take steps to prevent and respond to incidents of violence and intimidation against members of minority religious groups, including through education and awareness campaigns and effective interventions by law enforcement officials (Canada);

145.90 Enhance measures to reduce societal discrimination and incidents of violence against members of ethnic and religious minorities (United States of America);

145.91 Take concrete measures to end harassment, verbal threats, sabotage, arson attacks and vandalism faced by the Muslim population and provide access to justice to Roma people and Afro-Swedes and ensure their social inclusion (Pakistan);

145.92 Guarantee effective protection, in law and practice, of the rights of national and religious minorities, firstly Muslims, Jews as well as the Sami (Russian Federation);

145.93 Consider additional measures for improving the socioeconomic conditions of the Swedish Roma population (Serbia);

145.94 Further develop policies and measures to promote the rights of the national minorities (Armenia);

145.95 Take measures to improve the situation of persons belonging to the Roma and other minorities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

145.96 Take appropriate measures to support the cultures of persons belonging to national minorities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

145.97 Remain proactive in combating discrimination against Sami and Roma and in protecting their economic, social and cultural rights, in consultation with the communities concerned (Netherlands);

145.98 Continue the implementation of policies pertaining to national minorities such as the Sami and the Roma with a view to improving their living conditions (Lebanon);

145.99 Continue to give due attention to the situation of minorities, in particular to the situations regarding discrimination based on multiple grounds. Sweden should continue to take necessary measures to ensure full and effective implementation of its legislation on national minorities (Finland);

145.100. Consider ways to ensure the meaningful involvement of the Roma community in the implementation of the strategy and to focus more on efforts to change negative attitudes in Swedish society towards the Roma (Hungary);

145.101. Undertake a deeper dialogue with representatives of the Sami Parliament and increase efforts to give additional responsibilities to this Parliament to strengthen the self-determination of the Sami people (Albania);

145.102. Continue developing measures in order to ensure that affected Sami communities can participate actively in consultations on issues related to land rights, water and resources (Austria);

145.103. Continue its programmes to combat violence against women, including addressing the values and attitudes that contribute to the perpetration of violence (Philippines);

145.104. Strengthen the measures to combat violence against women as well as support the victims and survivors of such violence (India);

145.105. Develop programmes to raise awareness about domestic and gender violence (Mexico);

145.106. Step up efforts aimed at combating trafficking in human beings (Romania);

145.107. Strengthen efforts to prosecute human trafficking and increase understanding of human trafficking among the judiciary (United States of America);

145.108. Intensify action against child sex tourism (Romania);

145.109. Expedite the ongoing measures for combating child sex tourism (Sri Lanka);

145.110. Punish severely the perpetrators of paedophile tourism and sensitize the population to the negative effects of sex tourism (Senegal);

145.111. Take all necessary measures to implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, particularly to combat the sale, exploitation, and prostitution of children (Bahrain);

145.112. Raise the level of public awareness in relation to child sex tourism, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Lithuania);

145.113. Continue its efforts to ensure that perpetrators of hate crimes are brought to justice and proper redress is given to victims, including by adopting measures to better track all reported hate crimes throughout the justice system (Canada);

145.114. Adopt the judicial and administrative measures necessary to make effective the investigations before tribunals and sanctions for declarations of incitement to racial hatred and other acts of discrimination against minorities (Argentina);

145.115. Strengthen the judicial follow-up of hate crimes and hate speech, leaving no room for impunity (Hungary);

145.116. Extend to all parts of the country the training given to the police, prosecutors and judges to effectively investigate, prosecute and punish hate crimes (Austria);

145.117. **Ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are afforded all the fundamental legal safeguards in accordance with international standards (Slovakia);**

145.118. **Carry out judicial procedures in accordance with the norms that protect individual rights, particularly the right to effective judicial protection and due process (Uruguay);**

145.119. **Provide without discrimination the proper guarantees of effective judicial protection for detainees, in accordance with the principles and international obligations (Nicaragua);**

145.120. **Ensure all children are guaranteed fundamental rights during the judicial process (Israel);**

145.121. **Take effective measures to ensure the right of a person to enjoy freedom of religion and religious belief (Trinidad and Tobago);**

145.122. **Continue implementing measures and funding programmes to combat anti-Semitism (Israel);**

145.123. **Ensure effective protection of Muslim minorities, including their places of worship (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

145.124. **Take necessary measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity (Estonia);**

145.125. **Raise the age of entry into marriage to 18 years in accordance with the definition of the child under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Egypt);**

145.126. **Continue the efforts directed towards the promotion of the right to education (Armenia);**

145.127. **Implement the Government's disability policy 2011–2016 (Sudan);**

145.128. **Implement speedily the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommendations (India);**

145.129. **Implement the 2014 recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to ensure that all medical treatments are provided with free and informed consent and that no one is confined against his will in medical facilities on the basis of actual or perceived disability (Italy);**

145.130. **Take further measures to improve the situation of persons with disabilities in terms of participation and accessibility (Morocco);**

145.131. **Strengthen measures to promote access by persons with disabilities to employment in the public sector (Spain);**

145.132. **Take action to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities to obtain gainful employment (Trinidad and Tobago);**

145.133. **Continue efforts aimed at ensuring protection of the rights of persons with intellectual and psychological disabilities who require a high level of support, including through allocation of the necessary financial resources (Ukraine);**

145.134. **Take appropriate steps in order to prevent, identify and address situations of risk of suicide in persons with disabilities (Azerbaijan);**

145.135. Ensure that, in practice, undocumented children can benefit from health care and education (Togo);

145.136. Prioritize family member tracing when dealing with asylum-seeking unaccompanied children and ensure all relevant processes are in the child's best interests (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

145.137. Continue to maintain its level, framework and channel of official development assistance (Bangladesh);

145.138. Promote a holistic perspective on the rights of the child in its international development assistance policy, in line with articles 4 and 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Belgium).

146. The following recommendations will be examined by Sweden, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2015:

146.1. Ratify as soon as possible the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED) and incorporate it in the national legislation as well as recognizing the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (France); ratify ICPPED (Portugal); ratify ICPPED (Tunisia); proceed to ratify ICPPED, signed in 2007 (Spain); ratify ICPPED (Costa Rica); ratify ICPPED, signed in February 2007 (Uruguay); ratify ICPPED (Argentina);

146.2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) (Portugal); ratify OP-ICESCR (Tunisia); ratify OP-ICESCR (Spain); ratify OP-ICESCR (Pakistan);

146.3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (OP-CRC-IC) (Portugal); ratify OP-CRC-IC (Spain);

146.4. Ratify the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Montenegro);

146.5. Sign and ratify the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Germany);

146.6. Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples (Denmark); Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 (Honduras);

146.7. Continue to work towards ratification of ILO Convention No. 169 and thereby secure the Sami people's rights (Norway);

146.8. Fully incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols in Swedish legislation so as to end child prostitution, child pornography and trafficking of children for sexual purposes (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

146.9. Incorporate the crime of torture as a specific criminal offence under the Penal Code (Spain);

146.10. Define and criminalize torture in its domestic law, consistent with article 1 and article 4 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Australia);

146.11. Strengthen its legal framework and explicitly criminalize torture under the Penal Code in accordance with article 1 of CAT (Czech Republic);

146.12. **Adopt a definition of torture in line with article 1 of the Convention against Torture (Egypt);**

146.13. **Adopt a definition of torture under Swedish law that conforms to the definition under the Convention against Torture (Ghana);**

146.14. **Intensify efforts for the early establishment of a national independent human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico);**

146.15. **Accelerate the process of establishing a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);**

146.16. **Take all necessary measures to have an independent national human rights institution with "A" status, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Portugal);**

146.17. **Establish a national institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Nicaragua);**

146.18. **Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles (Pakistan);**

146.19. **Establish an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);**

146.20. **Establish an independent national human rights institution (Sudan);**

146.21. **Establish an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Benin);**

146.22. **Establish a fully independent human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Denmark);**

146.23. **Establish a national independent human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ghana);**

146.24. **Create an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Gabon);**

146.25. **Establish early a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (India);**

146.26. **Further strengthen the Parliamentary Ombudsman as a national preventive mechanism in accordance with OP-CAT (Czech Republic);**

146.27. **Eliminate the gender pay gap (Slovenia);**

146.28. **Broaden the mandate of the Ombudsman for Equality to ensure better follow-up on cases of discrimination (Bahrain);**

146.29. **Adopt a national plan on combating crimes of hatred, racism, and xenophobia (Russian Federation);**

146.30. **Amend legislation, in line with Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommendations, to provide for the possibility of adopting special measures to promote equal opportunities, and address**

structural discrimination and inequality faced by immigrants, and minority groups, including Afro-Swedes and Muslims (Bangladesh);

146.31. **Take steps for eliminating religious and racial profiling faced by minorities including Muslims, Roma people and Afro-Swedes and prosecute perpetrators of xenophobic crimes (Pakistan);**

146.32. **Adopt measures against ethnic profiling and prevent any collection of personal data on the basis of ethnic origin without the prior consent of those concerned (Czech Republic);**

146.33. **Remove all ethnic profiling in the working methods of the police and other officials responsible for law enforcement (Mexico);**

146.34. **Take measures to rapidly end the unlawful use of force by the police (Russian Federation);**

146.35. **Intensify efforts in fighting the root causes of violence against women by paying special attention to addressing alcohol and drug abuse (Greece);**

146.36. **Strengthen its investigations of sex crimes committed overseas by Swedish nationals and ensure that those who have travelled abroad to purchase sexual services, especially from children, can be prosecuted in Sweden (Thailand);**

146.37. **Abolish the use of solitary confinement for minors in the juvenile justice system (Slovakia);**

146.38. **Take urgent action to introduce an explicit statutory ban on solitary confinement for children in remand prisons and police cells (Israel);**

146.39. **Introduce a limit for the time a child can be held in detention, pretrial (Israel);**

146.40. **Take concrete steps to ensure that access to evidence is guaranteed to anyone under any regime of detention (Cuba);**

146.41. **Take measures to limit the time of pretrial detention or the equivalent situation of deprivation of liberty without charges and for investigation purposes, in accordance with general comment No. 8 of the Human Rights Committee (Ecuador);**

146.42. **Introduce alternative measures to pretrial detention for minors wherever possible, develop clear rules for the treatment of minors in police custody, and monitor their effective implementation in practice (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

146.43. **Take all appropriate measures in order to prevent the transfer of unaccompanied minors to Sweden and provide those who are already in the country with the necessary humanitarian support (Senegal);**

146.44. **Take concrete measures to ensure that the guarantees of non-refoulement can be given to any person under the control of the Swedish authorities while considered a refugee by a third country, including for this purpose and if necessary, the adoption of legislative measures (Argentina).**

The recommendation read in the meeting was: "Amend legislation, in line with CERD recommendations, to provide for the possibility of adopting special measures to promote equal opportunities, and address structural discrimination and inequality."

147. **The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Sweden and would thus be noted:**

147.1. **Consider ratifying other international human rights conventions, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Philippines); consider ratifying ICRMW (Guatemala); consider ratifying ICRMW (Rwanda); sign and ratify ICRMW (Uruguay); accelerate the process of ratification of ICRMW (Benin); ratify ICRMW (Sierra Leone); ratify ICRMW (Honduras);**

147.2. **Consider ratifying ICRMW (Indonesia);**

147.3. **Ratify ICRMW (Timor-Leste);**

147.4. **Ratify ICRMW (Turkey);**

147.5. **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, considering the equal and universal character should prevail for all international human rights instruments (Ecuador);**

147.6. **Remove reservations to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ICESCR, and the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children and child pornography in order to ensure full implementation of these key international instruments (Uzbekistan);**

147.7. **Withdraw its declaration on article 2 (c) in order to give full effect to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in addressing all forms of child pornography (Lithuania);**

147.8. **Restore the term "race" as a ground of discrimination in accordance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) (Ghana);**

147.9. **Take immediate steps to restore race as a ground of discrimination in compliance with ICERD, and the European Union Racial Equality Directive (Pakistan);**

147.10. **Further effectively investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes and establish an authority where complaints in this regard can be addressed (Germany);**

147.11. **Redouble its efforts in fostering national unity and harmony, including by intensifying dialogues promoting deeper understanding among societies of different ethnic and faith, addressing the negative portrayal in the media of members of the Muslim community and criminalizing hate speech and all forms of incitement to hatred and violence (Malaysia);**

147.12. **Take measures to prohibit in practice anti-immigration speech and racist propaganda (Togo);**

147.13. **Take the necessary steps to curb racist propaganda, including on the internet (Thailand);**

147.14. **Immediately ban anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim political discourse propagated by some political parties including Sweden Democrats (Pakistan);**

147.15. **Ensure accountability for hate speech including in political discourse, prohibiting organizations promoting and inciting racial hatred, in line with**

article 4 (b) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and ratify ICRMW (Egypt);

147.16. **Amend legislation to prohibit the activities of organizations which promote and incite racial and religious hatred (Uzbekistan);**

147.17. **Declare illegal and prohibit organizations promoting and inciting racial hatred, in line with the international norms (Azerbaijan);**

147.18. **Amend its legislation to declare illegal and prohibit organizations promoting and inciting racial hatred, in line with article 4 (b) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Greece);**

147.19. **Implement a ban on racist organizations and activities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

147.20. **Strengthen legislation on the protection of the public from unauthorized actions by the police (Russian Federation);**

147.21. **Speed up the international legal cooperation mechanisms in the judicial bodies and the Prosecutor Office, to ensure due process, specifically in cases where the person concerned is protected by an asylum decision or refugee status (Ecuador);**

147.22. **Decriminalize defamation (Estonia);**

147.23. **Review surveillance legislation with a view to effectively protecting the right to privacy (Slovenia);**

147.24. **Keep monitoring the application of the 2008 Surveillance Act to prevent interference with the right to privacy and to implement reforms to comply with its obligations under EU law as set out in the International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance (Netherlands);**

147.25. **Provide protection for the family unit as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);**

147.26. **Conduct impartial, public and thorough investigation of cases of possible involvement of Sweden in the unlawful detention, transportation, interrogation and torture by officers of the CIA of the USA of suspects of terrorism (Russian Federation).**

148. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Sweden was headed by Ms. Annika Söder, State Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and was composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Jan Knutsson, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Sweden, Geneva;
- Mr. Anders Rönquist, Director-General for Legal Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Gustaf Lind, Ambassador, Deputy Director-General, Head of Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Josefin Simonsson Brodén, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Sweden in Geneva;
- Ms. Anna Jakenberg Brinck, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Sweden in Geneva;
- Mr. Mans Molander, Deputy Director, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Karin Seydlitz, Deputy Director, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Anna Falkdalen, Desk Officer, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Anna C. Lindberg, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Justice, Stockholm;
- Ms. Johanna Peyron, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Justice, Stockholm;
- Ms. Karin Kvarfordt Nita, Deputy Director, Ministry of Culture, Stockholm;
- Mr. Marten Kivi, Deputy Director, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Mikaela Bexar, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Justice, Stockholm;
- Ms. Moa Ostberg, Desk Officer, Ministry of Culture, Stockholm;
- Ms. Anna Schölin, Desk Officer, Ministry of Culture, Stockholm;
- Ms. Josefin Emanuel Brattberg, Desk Officer, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Jenny Munkett, Desk Officer, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Stockholm;
- Ms. Bilge Tekin Betrits, Desk Officer, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Stockholm.